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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/955,832	09/19/2001	Dennis A. Lonergan	PIL0064/US	1229

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EXAMINER

MADSEN, ROBERT A

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

1761

DATE MAILED: 09/11/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/955,832

Applicant(s)

LONERGAN ET AL.

Examiner

Robert Madsen

Art Unit

1761

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-22 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-22 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on ____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on ____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) 2,5.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). ____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

2. Claims 1-22 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Lonegran et al. (US 5672369).

3. Lonegran et al. teach a frozen dough product surrounded by a carbon dioxide concentration of 90% by volume, as recited in claims 1-4, 14-17, 18-21, proofed to greater than 100% as recited in claim 22 (Column 2, lines 22-50, Column 5, lines 10-61) that may be laminated or non-laminated as recited in claims 12 and 13, in the form of a bread, roll, or pastry as recited in claims 9-11, pre-proofed and thawed (Column 3, lines 20-58), includes sodium bicarbonate and gluco-delta-lactone as recited in claims 7 and 8, fermentation prior to freezing, and includes yeast as recited in claims 5 and 6 (Column 4, lines 40-61).

4. Claims 1-4, 9, 14-21 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Juchem (US 5549922).

5. Juchem teaches freezing a semi-finished bread dough, as recited in claim 9, and sealing with a 100% carbon dioxide atmosphere as recited in claims 1-4, 14-21. They are unproofed as recited in claims 1, 14, and 18, since they are sealed after combining

the flour and liquid components (Column 2, lines 28-55, Column 3, line 1-5, 18-20, 52-65, Column 4, lines 40-49).

6. Claims 1-6, 9, 18-21 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Yamamoto et al. (EP0404957)

7. Yamamoto et al. '957 teach a frozen yeast fermented bread product with an enhanced proofing utilizing up to 100% carbon dioxide atmosphere, as recited in claims 1-6, 9, 18-21 (Abstract, Page 2-3, Page 6).

8. Claims 1, 5, 6, 9, 14 and 17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Yamamoto (JP02-027936).

9. Yamamoto '936 fermenting bread dough in a carbon dioxide atmosphere and freezing the dough in the carbon dioxide atmosphere, as well as including carbon dioxide in the package, to increase baking volume (English Abstract).

10.

Conclusion


11. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Taylor teaches freezing unbaked and unproofed dough in modified atmosphere package.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Robert Madsen whose telephone number is (703)305-0068. The examiner can normally be reached on 7:00AM-3:30PM M-F.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Milton Cano can be reached on (703)308-3959. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703) 872-9306.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-0061.

Robert Madsen
Examiner
Art Unit 1761


MILTON I. CANO
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
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